



January 2, 2019

Samuel Sinyangwe  
[66713-09825126@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:66713-09825126@requests.muckrock.com)

RE: Public Records Act Request

Dear Mr. Sinyangwe:

The City of Santa Rosa ("City") is in receipt of your request for public records, which was received by the City on December 31, 2018. A copy of your request is enclosed for reference.

Under the California Public Records Act (Government Code Section 6250, et seq.), the City is obliged to comply with a request for a public record so long as the requester makes a specific and focused request for records, the record is maintained by the City in its ordinary course of business, the record is disclosable, and the records can be located with reasonable effort. The Public Records Act provides for the inspection or copying of existing identifiable public records; it does not compel the City to create new records, lists, or reports in response to a request, nor does it compel the City to answer questions.

The City is required to determine whether the request, in whole or in part, seeks disclosable public records. Ordinarily, this determination must take place within ten (10) days of the City's receipt of the request. Consistent with that requirement, the City has reviewed your request in light of City records and made the following determination:

**REQUEST #1:** The total number of police use of force incidents, by type of force used, between 2013-2017 (separated by year).

**DETERMINATION:** This request seeks information that is within disclosable public records.

Link to the Santa Rosa Police Department website with Use of Force information from our 2017 Annual Report: <https://srcity.org/DocumentCenter/View/19539/2017-UseOfForceStats>

**REQUEST #2:** The total number of people that police used force against, between 2013-2017 (separated by year).

**DETERMINATION:** This request seeks information that is within disclosable public records. Although the City is under no obligation to answer questions in response to a request for public records, the City has made an exception in this case for the City's convenience. In response to this request, the Santa Rosa Police Department has made the following determinations:

2013 = 180  
2014 = 168  
2015 = 128  
2016 = 158  
2017 = 175

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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**REQUEST #3:** . The total number of police use of force complaints reported between 2013-2017 (separated by year).

**DETERMINATION:** This request seeks information that is within disclosable public records. Although the City is under no obligation to answer questions in response to a request for public records, the City has made an exception in this case for the City's convenience. In response to this request, the Santa Rosa Police Department has made the following approximate determinations:

2013 = The City has no records responsive to this request.  
2014 = 8  
2015 = 8  
2016 = 5  
2017 = 1

**REQUEST #4:** The total number of police use of force complaints sustained between 2013-2017 (separated by year).

**DETERMINATION:** This request seeks information that is within disclosable public records. Although the City is under no obligation to answer questions in response to a request for public records, the City has made an exception in this case for the City's convenience. In response to this request, the Santa Rosa Police Department has determined that there were approximately 0 sustained use of force complaints between 2014 – 2017. The City has no records responsive to 2013 use of force complaints.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me at [cbehler@srcity.org](mailto:cbehler@srcity.org) or contact me at (707) 543-3554.

Sincerely,

CARRIE L. BEHLER  
Administrative Secretary  
Office of the Chief of Police

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